

YUGOSLAVIA: Milosevic Unseats Vojvodina Leadership

In an unprecedented move, the entire party leadership of Serbia's Vojvodina Province—key opponents to Serbian party boss Slobodan Milosevic—resigned yesterday. The resignations came after the Serbian republic party demanded their removal and while 100,000 pro-Milosevic Serbs demonstrated outside Vojvodina party headquarters. The Vojvodina party leaders made a last-minute appeal to the national party presidium and the state presidency for unspecified assistance but apparently got no answer. In Kosovo, Serbia's other autonomous province, the organizing committee for Serb demonstrations announced that it would dispand but that the protests already planned would be held

The resignations are Milosevic's most dramatic victory to date in his campaign to give Serbia greater control over its provinces, and federal leaders may have accepted the move to appease Milosevic and to end Serb demonstrations. Milosevic now will probably stack the Vojvodina leadership with his supporters. His next step probably will be to oust Kosovo's mainly ethnic Albanian leadership—an act that could spark ethnic violence and a police crackdown. He also will probably increase efforts to overturn the federal leadership before or at a Central Committee plenum on 17 October, a move that would give him more national clout and may provoke a major regional backlash

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